

Running as fast as he can  
Ed Moran '03 earned a gold medal at the 5,000-m  
run at the Pan American games.  
See HEAD OF THE PACK page 10



Fattening their wallets  
Reportedly raising money for a fat suit, 7th Grade presents Liz  
Hurley and Lenny Kravitz at its improv show tonight.  
See 7TH GRADE page 6

# The Flat Hat

The twice-weekly student newspaper of the College of William and Mary ♦ Est. 1911

VOL.97, NO.8

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2007

FLATHATNEWS.COM

## Alert system tested

By ALEX GUILLÉN  
Flat Hat Assoc. Reviews Editor

The chemical spill that sent four employees to the hospital and led to the evacuation of the Campus Center Tuesday revealed problems in the College's new emergency alert system.

Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler told the Daily Press that the alert service was activated at 11:15 a.m., explaining the discrepancy between the event at 9:30 a.m. and the alerts. When the alert system is activated, calls and text messages are sent to the nearly 19,000 people who are signed up, including students, faculty, staff and parents.

The system is new to the campus this year. A test of the system is scheduled for this Monday at 10:30 a.m., during which a 120-decibel alarm will sound on campus and adjoining areas.

A College press release described the test. "The drill will allow campus officials to verify the number of ... students, faculty and staff who have signed up to be notified by the alert system, and it will test the campus community's knowledge of what to do in a real emergency situation," the release stated. "The siren test will allow both the campus and the local community to become familiar with its sound."

The release added that the College will activate an emergency website that describes the situation in place of the usual home page.

According to Sadler, administrators decided to send the message only to those on campus or those affiliated with the Campus Center — about half of the 19,000 signed up. However, at least one student not enrolled this semester received a call, and many parents were notified, including those in other states. Sadler added that 157 people did not receive a message or a call at all.

In a follow-up e-mail to students, Sadler explained that the incident revealed several problems with the system which would need to be fixed. Another failing of the system was the alert siren, which should sound during the upcoming test.

According to the Daily Press, the system costs approximately \$20,000 annually.

Sadler was unavailable at press time for further comment.

## Approx. 400 register to vote

Students register to vote in Williamsburg in record numbers, registration drive continues

By AUSTIN WRIGHT  
Flat Hat News Editor

The demographics of the Williamsburg voter population are shifting rapidly, as 234 registrants were added in just 13 days, raising the number of registered voters from 6,192 Sept. 4 to 6,426 Sept. 17. The overwhelming majority of the new voters, according to Registrar Winifred Sowder, are students.

Sowder estimates that in the first month of school, 400 students from the College registered to vote in Williamsburg — enough to have closed the gap between David Sievers '07, who ran last year for Williamsburg City Council as a student, and the highest vote-getter in that election, Mayor Jeanne Zeidler. The two highest vote-getters won spots on the council, and Sievers would have needed 155 more votes to win a spot.

Student Assembly Senate Chair Matt Beato '09 confirmed Wednesday that he may seek a position on the council, but that he will not decide until January. "It's something I've thought about, but I would only consider it — and I mean this — if it's the only way to achieve our strategic objectives," he said. "This isn't about any one student."

Those objectives include relaxing noise ordinances, attracting College-oriented businesses to locations near campus and changing the Williamsburg law that allows no more than three unrelated people to live in a house together. "It's not about abolishing [the three-person rule], but about finding a fair and creative solution that doesn't prohibit four students from living in a six-person house," SA President Zach Pilchen '09 said Wednesday.

Pilchen also said he hopes to

change the time of City Council meetings from 2 p.m. to a time when both students and daytime workers can attend.

"Only retirees can go," Beato said.

"And that has a direct influence on policies."

By increasing the number of

See VOTING page 4

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the 'The Student Assembly' website. The page has a navigation menu on the left with links like 'EXECUTIVE BRANCH', 'SENATE', 'LEGISLATION', etc. The main content area is a registration form titled 'Are you a citizen of the United States of America?'. It includes fields for name, date of birth, gender, and address, along with checkboxes for various preferences like 'On-Campus' and 'Select a dorm...'. The form is partially filled out with example data.

COURTESY — STUDENT ASSEMBLY

Students can register to vote using a form on the SA's website.

## NIGHT AT NEW TOWN



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT

College students sign up for prizes and free giveaways at William and Mary night at New Town.

## Nichol delegates authority

Provost Feiss given greater authority on everyday administration

By MAXIM LOTT  
Flat Hat Deputy News Editor

College President Gene Nichol has delegated certain everyday responsibilities to Provost Geoffrey Feiss in what the administration says is a normal shift of work responsibilities.

"This is a simple workload adjustment," Nichol told The Flat Hat. "I have been looking for over a year for ways to be able to spend more time on the road, fundraising, doing alumni relations and working with the legislature. So the provost and the vice presidents will handle more of the routine operational decision-making. I'll still make the major policy and operational decisions. ... And, of course, it has absolutely nothing to do with the cross."

The statement comes after an article and editorial Wednesday in a conservative campus newspaper, the Virginia Informer, that said Feiss would take over the day-to-day operations of the College.

Feiss told The Flat Hat that the Informer's coverage was "a gross exaggeration of what's taking place."

Asked whether he thought there was any connection between Nichol's recent controversies and the transfer of responsibilities, Feiss said there was none.

"It's almost become a self-fulfilling prophecy," he said. "Nichol could wear a blue suit one day and [critics] would somehow see it as justifying their claims."

Feiss gave specific examples of the work that had been transferred to him. One responsibility will be filling in for the president at meetings with vice presidents of the College.

"[Another] good example is the hiring freeze. There is no need to involve the president in every single exemption request ... and we have



FILE PHOTO  
Gene Nichol

## Facebook shows students moving left

By MAXIM LOTT  
Flat Hat Deputy News Editor

Data from Facebook.com shows that among the 3,000 undergraduates at the College who list a political stance, liberals outnumber conservatives more than 2.8 to 1. Older students are the most likely to list them-

selves as liberal, while the freshmen have a slightly smaller 2.6 to 1 ratio. According to comparable data gathered by The Flat Hat two years ago, when members of the Class of 2009 were freshmen, their ratio of liberals to conservatives was much lower at 2.1 to 1.

However, during their time at the

College, the classes of 2008 and 2009 have moved sharply left. By sophomore year, students in the class of 2009 had 2.5 liberals for each conservative. Now that ratio is up 2.84 to 1.

This data may indicate that the College has a liberalizing effect on students, Chancellor Professor of Economics Will Hausman told The Flat Hat.

"Do students get more liberal during their college years? I think so," Professor Hausman said. "Partly because faculty tend to be more liberal than the general population (or general population of parents with students at the College.) Does this mean they are biased? I do not think so."

Although there has been much attention about disaffection with the two-party system, the number of students listing "Other" or "Libertarian" affiliations, now at 8 percent, is up just 1 percent since 2005.

Statistics also confirm a political gender gap. Among female students there are more than 3 liberals for

each conservative, but with men the ratio is only 2.5 to 1.

There are several limiting factors to consider when using Facebook data. Only 3,000 undergraduates, 53 percent, list their political affiliation or have an account accessible to anyone within the College network.

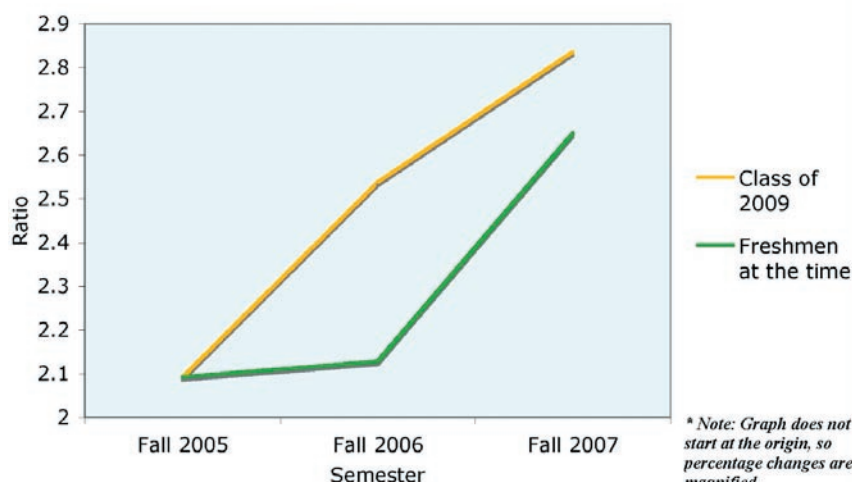
Since not everyone lists a political stance, there could be biases in the data. For instance, students who hold unpopular opinions and decide not to list their views on Facebook may cause the ratios to look bigger than they actually are.

"[The statistics] are indicative, not definitive," professor Hausman said. "[But a] 53 percent response rate is quite respectable and certainly sufficient to make statements about."

Students have also been tightening privacy controls since 2005. The number of viewable profiles in the class of 2009 has fallen by one-fifth since then, either due to restricted accessibility to accounts or account deactivation.

See FACEBOOK page 4

Ratio of Liberals to Conservatives



\* Note: Graph does not start at the origin, so percentage changes are magnified

GRAPH BY MAXIM LOTT — THE FLAT HAT

The graph shows the ratio of liberals and conservatives based on Facebook profiles.



# NEWSINSIGHT

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## The Flat Hat

‘Stabilitas et Fides’

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The Flat Hat wishes to correct any facts printed incorrectly. Corrections may be submitted by e-mail to the section editor in which the incorrect information was printed. Requests for corrections will be accepted at any time.

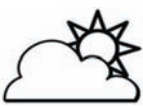
### Weather

Friday




High 84°  
Low 69°

Saturday



High 88°  
Low 68°

Sunday



High 91°  
Low 66°

Source: www.weather.com

### Quotes of the Week

“

*It’s like you’re playing your big brother, you get a chance to try to show them up.*

—Derek Cox ’10 on the upcoming Va. Tech football game.  
See **GOLIATH** page 10

“

*I’ll still make the major policy and operational decisions ... and, of course, it has absolutely nothing to do with the cross.*

—President Gene Nichol on the transfer of some everyday functions to Provost Feiss  
See **NICHOL** page 1

### News in Brief

#### Swem Library abandons extended weekend hours

Due to financial constraints, Swem Library will not be able to extend its hours on weekends as planned. For now, Swem’s weekend hours will remain the same: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Fridays; 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays; and 1 p.m. to 2 a.m. Sundays.

The original plan, according to Dean of University Libraries Connie McCarthy, was to open at 10 a.m. Sundays and close at 9 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays.

McCarthy said Swem may extend the weekend hours in the future, but the current budget does not allow for this. Swem has also cut student workers because of the rise in minimum wage and is keeping fewer permanent staff than necessary for the weekend hours.

Swem will still remain open until 2 a.m. Sunday through Thursday.

“We felt this was the top priority for students, so it is important to retain the late closing. We worked for over two years with the Student Assembly to put this in place, and it has been very well received by students,” McCarthy said.

— by Eliza Murphy

### By the Numbers

\$200,000

The reported amount that Virginia Tech is paying the College for the Tribe to play the Hokies in a football game this weekend in Blacksburg.

20 percent

The percent of people who said in a recent poll of 1,011 adults that they felt they spend less time having sex because they are online. The survey was conducted by advertising agency JWT. Twenty-eight percent admitted to spending less time socializing because of the internet.

15

The number of fire alarms that went off in undergraduate dorms during the first five days of the semester. A fire safety officer cited cooking fires as the main cause.

\$25,000 a day

The amount that Caitlin Upton, the Miss Teen USA contestant who became a YouTube sensation after giving an embarrassing answer to a question about U.S. education, may now earn at her new contract with Donald Trump’s modeling agency.

“If I had answered that question right and happened to win, I’d never [have] been given the opportunities,” Caitlin told local news channel WIS. Fifteen million people watched her pageant mistake on YouTube.

— by Maxim Lott and Isshin Teshima

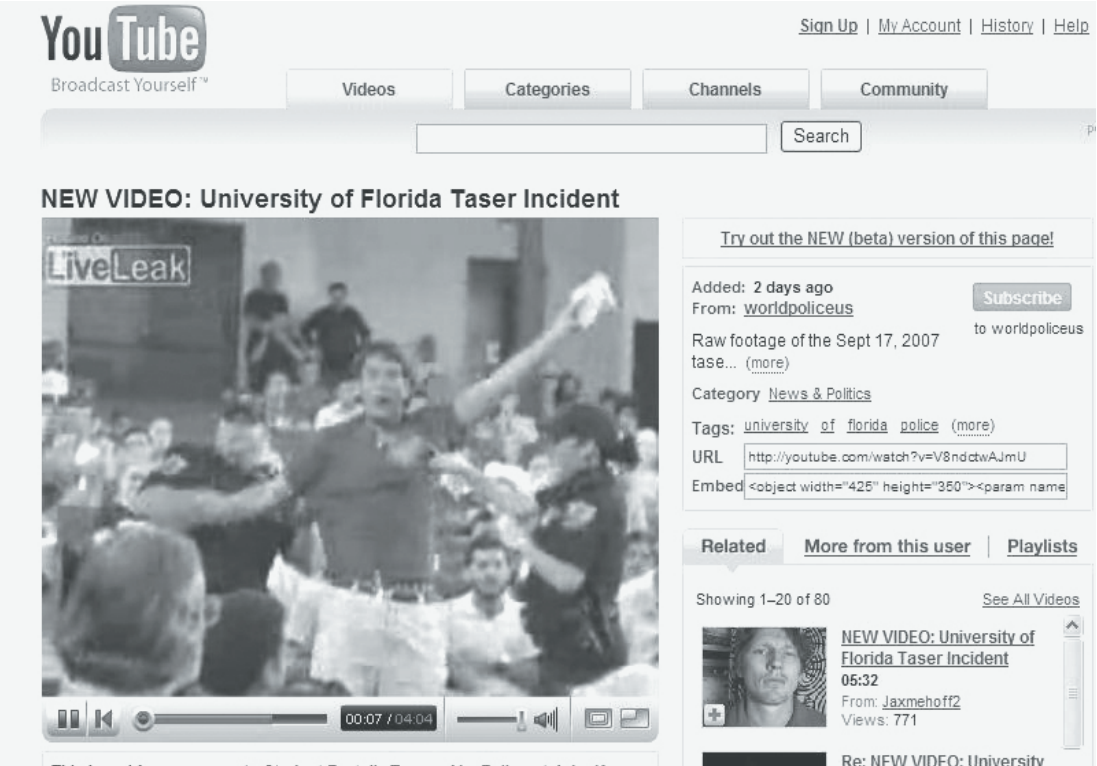


PHOTO TAKEN FROM YOUTUBE  
The video recording of the tasing incident instantly gained nationwide attention on YouTube.

### BEYOND THE BURG

## UF student tasered during John Kerry Q & A

YouTube video draws attention from students and civil liberty groups

By **TRENT FULTON**  
The Flat Hat

A student at the University of Florida Gainesville was stunned with a taser Monday after disrupting a question-and-answer session with Sen. John Kerry (D-Mass). Student Andrew Meyer reportedly broke in line and spent roughly one minute lambasting Kerry on topics ranging from his failure to publicly support the impeachment of President George Bush to his alleged involvement in Skull and Bones, a secret society at Yale.

He was then dragged away by campus police and taken to a local jail. Two university police officers have been placed on administrative leave as the university investigates whether excessive force was used.

According to the police report, Meyer castigated Kerry.

“You will take my question because I have been listening to your crap for two hours,” he said,

and handed a video camera to a nearby woman. The video has since been circulated widely on the internet and television news and shows Meyer asking why Kerry did not contest Bush’s election in 2004 on the grounds of reported disenfranchisement, among other questions.. After about one minute, Meyer was told his time was up and police attempted to remove him. On the video, Kerry was heard saying he would answer the student’s “very important question” while Meyer yelled, “What did I do? Get the fuck off me, man, I didn’t do anything.”

Subsequent investigation of Meyer revealed a website on which he had posted videos of himself involved in various practical jokes, as well as what has been described as a “disorganized diatribe” against the Iraq war, the U.S. media and the American public for its ambivalence. Police officers described the incident as a publicity stunt on the part of

the student. They claim he was “yelling as loud as he could to sensationalize his presence” and that his behavior changed greatly once in police custody.

Meyer was held in detention Monday night and released without bail the following morning. Police have called for charges against him. The Office of the State Attorney has yet to make a decision on formal charges. The incident elicited a protest from several students Tuesday, and university president J. Bernard Machen has promised a student-faculty review panel to examine “all of our protocols relative to student dialogue and faculty interaction.” Kerry has stated that the disruption was the first of its type in his 37 years of public speaking.

“I believe I could have handled the situation without interruption,” he said, “but again, I do not know what warnings or other exchanges transpired between the young man and the police.”

## This week in Flat Hat history

1929

The U.S. Government placed the first post office on campus in the Citizenship building that was torn down in 1931. Due to the demands of a government post office, the building was renovated to hold the new office.

1951

A special edition of The Flat Hat was released Sept. 20 that contained an apologetic statement by members of the faculty regarding academic irregularities in the athletic departments. A meeting revealed that the athletic program had hit a point when the athletic life of certain students was considered more important than academic life.

1967

The Commons, now known as the Caf, was opened, giving the College a second dining hall. The Commons greatly relieved overcrowding in Trinkle Hall of the Campus Center, which was then used as a cafeteria. Students could only eat breakfast and dinner in their assigned food halls, but lunch could be eaten at either cafeteria.

1984

Blow Gymnasium, now known as Blow Memorial Hall, was closed temporarily to discuss security protocols.. The gymnasium was open to students and alumni. However, it was found that a number of people who were not alumni, students or faculty members were using the gym.

— compiled by Isshin Teshima

### STREET BEAT

## What did you think of the new emergency alert system?



I think it’s very efficient and it made me feel super cool when I got a text in the middle of class.

Kyle Dooley ’11



I thought it worked amazingly well.

Reginald Floyd VanWroten ’08



I thought it was slow. I found out about the Marketplace three hours late.

Kelsey Powell ’11



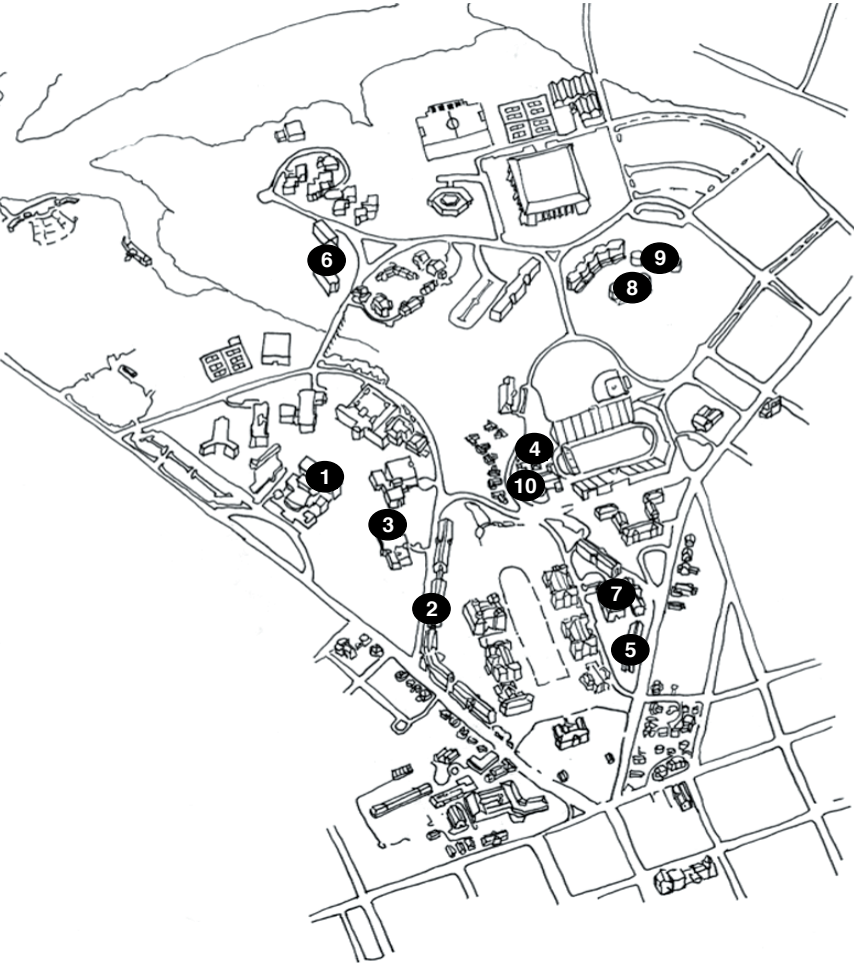
It was very complete and effective at alerting students and parents alike.

Dan Maguire ’08

— photos and interviews by Emily Hahn

### CAMPUS POLICE BEAT

## Sept. 11 - Sept. 17



**Tuesday, Sept. 11** — A faculty member reported a stolen bike worth \$100 from Andrews Hall. An officer was dispatched. **1**

**Wednesday, Sept. 12** — A Chandler Hall student reported receiving threatening phone calls. **2**

**Thursday, Sept. 13** — The superintendents’ trailers near the Integrated Science Center were spray painted. The estimated damage was \$1,000. **3**

— A student reported his bicycle stolen from the bike rack outside the post office. It was worth \$80. **4**

— A construction worker reported that his wallet was stolen. Its value is estimated to be \$500. **3**

— A \$260 bike was taken from Monroe Hall. The bike’s college tag was 10895. **5**

— An unregistered bike worth \$100 was reported stolen from Dupont. **6**

**Saturday, Sept. 15** — An officer met with Blow Hall Career Center staff about a stolen computer. Staff reported that nothing had been stolen. **7**

**Sunday, Sept. 16** — A student at the Units was referred for underage possession of alcohol and being drunk in public. **8**

— A student reported that her purse was stolen at a Pi Kappa Alpha party the previous night. The purse was found but the contents were missing, including a wallet and phone. The total value was estimated to be around \$350. **9**

— A bike, worth \$100, was stolen from Monroe Hall. **7**

**Monday, Sept. 17** — Staff at the University Center reported that credit card slips and \$165 in cash had been stolen. **10**

— compiled by Maria Moy



# SEAC holds rally in support of carbon neutrality

By **ROBERT OEHRIG** and **WAYNE PEARSON**  
*The Flat Hat*

Yesterday the College’s Land-scape, Energy and Environment (LEE) Committee decided to endorse the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, which proposes measures to make the campus carbon neutral by 2020. An official recommendation to President Nichol will not come until Monday.

The Student Environmental Action Coalition is viewing the endorsement as a positive step. SEAC has been pushing for Nichol to sign onto the PCC since last year. When presented with the document last spring, Nichol deferred the decision to the College’s standing committee of experts on College environmental issues, the LEE Committee, which met yesterday to discuss the proposal.

“Nichol has made it clear that he really respects the counsel of the LEE Committee,” SEAC Me-

dia Coordinator Ryan Lintelman 09 said.

Over 400 other institutions, including 11 in Virginia, have signed the PCC. Government Professor Maria Ivanova and collaborating students issued a report in May 2007 documenting that the College “is currently lagging behind its peer group on the issue of climate change.”

The PCC provides a framework with guidelines for institutions of higher learning to implement carbon neutrality on their campuses. However, it leaves room for interpretation for each school. SEAC has proposed suggestions for the College to meet guidelines laid out by the PCC, such as having a freshman orientation program or GER focused on environmental sustainability or having a Sustainability Coordinator who would serve the functions of sustainability education, facilities improvements and policy advising in the area of energy and sustainability, Caroline Cress 10 said. Cress is a student

member of the LEE Committee.

Prior to the meeting yesterday afternoon, nearly 100 students showed their support by participating in a rally led by SEAC facilitators Jake Reeder 09 and Josh Wayland 08. Students surrounded the Marshall-Wythe School of Law, where the committee meets, wearing green and carrying pinwheels and signs to show their support for renewable energy.

“SEAC members who marched to the law school showed up before the meeting and stayed for a while during it. They walked around outside, past the window of the room in which we were meeting,” Cress said. “It was great– the entire committee looked outside and saw them waving pinwheels and holding up signs. It was a great demonstration of student support.”

Last year, the College used 68,306,552 kilowatts of electricity, costing the school over \$3 million. Total energy costs were over \$6 million. The energy consumption has increased over the past three



COURTESY PHOTO — RYAN LINTELMAN  
*Students carried banners supporting the PCC in hopes that the LEE Committee would approve the proposal.*

years, which has resulted in a greater price to pay, both economically and environmentally.

SEAC also created a faculty and student petition in support of the PCC, which was signed by 780 students and 300 faculty.

“With all the research students have done on the feasibility of committing to carbon neutrality, signing his name on the paper is probably the hardest thing Gene Nichol will have to do,” SEAC member David Sievers ’07 said.

## Students show Jena 6 support

By **MARIA MOY**  
*The Flat Hat*

Tuesday, the College’s chapter of the NAACP held a rally to show support for the Jena 6, a group of six black students from Jena, La. currently facing serious charges for their alleged involvement in a high school fight.

About 100 students, dressed in green and black, attended the rally. The students walked from the University Center Terrace to the Wren Building, where they heard speeches from various members of the College and the Williamsburg community. Ashley Shuler ’08, organizer of the College’s Jena 6 campaign, Justin Reid ’09, president of the College’s chapter of the NAACP, and Clarence Wilson, president of the Williamsburg NAACP were among the speakers.

The theme of the rally was “it is time for change.” The rally focused not only on the Jena 6 campaign but also on other aspects of the continued racial inequality in the nation. It concluded with Nubia Dickerson’s (09) rendition of ‘Lift Every Voice and Sing.’

The Jena 6 were arrested after a period of high racial tension stemming from several violent encounters between black and white students.

According to the Chicago Tribune, the tension began when a black student sat under a tree that was apparently considered white students’ domain.

By the following day, white students had hung three nooses from the tree limbs. The white students responsible were suspended from school for three days, enraging members of Jena’s black community, who wanted to see more severe punishment for the students.

The hanging of the nooses and the suspension of the culprits were followed by several altercations within the community. In one fight, the Jena 6 were arrested and charged with the attempted murder of one of their classmates.

The boy that the Jena 6 allegedly beat was knocked unconscious

but did not suffer any serious injuries.

The only boy to stand trial as of yet is Mychal Bell. According to the Washington Post, Bell was convicted of aggravated battery, but the case was appealed and the charges reduced because Bell is a minor and cannot be tried as an adult for battery. Bell is also the only boy who has been unable to pay his bond.

The Jena 6 students are facing what many think are inflated charges, considering that they inflicted minimal damage and that their white counterparts face much less serious charges. According to CNN, the boys deny all guilt.

Figures such as the Rev. Al Sharpton, the Rev. Jesse Jackson, Martin Luther King III and Sen. Barack Obama have all

participated in denouncing the proceedings, online organizations have formed the core of the support effort. The website ColorOfChange.org organized an online petition in support of the Jena 6.

The site has over 215,000 signatures and plans to send the petition to both District Attorney Reed Walters and Gov. Kathleen Blanco, asking them to drop all charges against the Jena 6. The other main online support effort has been on Facebook., where over 340 groups concerning the Jena 6 have formed. The College’s Facebook group supporting the Jena 6 has over 750 members.

“This is an issue we’ve got to confront on a personal level, in our everyday lives and in everyday interactions,” Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen ’09 said in his speech at the rally.

## SA discusses election protocol

By **RUSS ZERBO**  
*The Flat Hat*

In the year’s shortest meeting so far, the Student Assembly discussed a potential website to run the College’s elections and the prospects for the consolidated reserve.

The meeting took place at 7 p.m. Members may have been looking ahead to the freshman senatorial candidate “meet and greet” at 8 p.m., a few senators were late and most of the graduate school representatives were absent. After Matt Brown ’08 finished a phone call with an unknown party, he was heard saying, “He just chugged a beer, he’ll be right over,” to Senate Chairman Matt Beato ’09. Shortly after the call and about 10 minutes after the meeting was supposed to start, Senators Matt Skibiak ’08 and Joe Luppino-Esposito ’08 entered the room; the meeting was soon called to order.

The elections committee presented the SA with

a proposal on votenet.com, the internet company that the College is considering hiring to run student elections. The service costs \$2,500 a year; the company does not charge per election and has two secure off-site servers to ensure confidentiality of results. The College’s alumni committees recommended the website. The biggest problem with votenet.com is that it does not offer instant run-off voting, which prevents officials from seeing progress during an election.

“SA constitution says undergrads are elected by instant run off voting,” Beato said.

If website is approved, it will have to change its constitution, which would be voted upon at a later date. Many senators assured the freshman candidates in attendance that Tuesday night’s meeting was a poor reflection of usual SA proceedings.

“If you’re going to go out and drink before the meeting, fine, but please try and be on time,” Beato said at the end of the meeting.



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**SAVE THE DATE:**

**Saturday, October 6**

**Celebration of Summer Research**

**University Center**



# Nichol delegates administrative duties to spend time on the road

NICHOL *from page 1*

talked with the president about what the general criteria should be.”

Feiss and other administrators are also now in charge of drawing up a six-year academic and financial plan for the Board of Visitors.

The timing also makes sense, Feiss said. “It is very common for a new President to come, and after a few years determine what aspects of the college he needs to manage on a daily basis.”

Nichol also wanted to spend more time with students, according to the Feiss.

“A lot of this is just about work style,” Feiss added.

“At other universities, this is common ... Day to day operations are not run by the president at U.Va. or Virginia Tech.”

Joe Luppito-Esposito, editor in chief of the Informer and writer of the article, acknowledged this, but said the important issue was that the College was departing from its old policy.

“I certainly don’t think they are lying,” Luppito-Esposito said. “We just see it here one way, and they see it another way.”

Provost Feiss said that the Virginia Informer article flattered him by overstressing the powers that he had been given.

“But it’s not right,” he added.

# Approx. 400 students register to vote

VOTING *from page 1*

College voters, Beato and Pilchen believe students will become a political force in the city and that local candidates will have to appeal to students to get elected.

Pilchen, Beato and other SA members organized the voter registration drives that have been enticing hundreds of students to register to vote in Williamsburg. They use an online form that requires students to answer 20 questions.

The form, programmed online by Beato, solves a problem that had been inhibiting potential student voters: they don’t know their on-campus addresses.

“What is the address of, you know, Yates 105?” Pilchen said. “It turns out they all have physical addresses. The program allows you to select a dormitory, and it looks up the physical address.”

Computers connected to the website, sa.wm.

edu/voteinwilliamsburg, have been set up at special events like freshman orientation and football tailgates on the Sunken Garden. They will be available outside the University Center dining hall during lunch and dinner next week.

Pilchen said that more than half of the students registering to vote were not previously registered in any location.

For years, the majority of students had been denied the right to register to vote in Williamsburg. Former Registrar Dave Andrews typically rejected student applicants because he did not consider them to be domiciled in Williamsburg. In late April, Andrews was fired for unknown reasons.

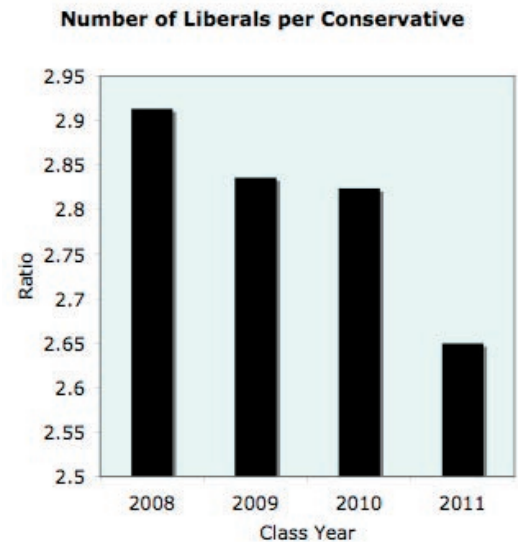
Sowder, his replacement, evaluates student applications differently and typically approves them.

“I’m not going to treat [students] any differently than I treat anybody else,” she said. “I think you’re adults, and you know what you’re doing here.”

# Facebook trend shows students leaning left

FACEBOOK *from page 1*

“It could be the case that people who identify as liberal would be more willing to announce [their beliefs], whereas conservatives might be more pri-



MAXIM LOTT — THE FLAT HAT  
Number of liberals per conservative at the College.

vacy oriented,” visiting economics Professor Jason Hulbert told The Flat Hat.

He added that one cannot make statements about the effect of college in general based on data from just William and Mary.


Facebook officially releases current college-wide data, which includes statistics from graduate students and alumni, for all universities.

Based on the data, the College is more liberal than most Virginia universities, including the University of Virginia, University of Mary Washington, George Mason University and James Madison University. The College is slightly more conservative than Virginia Commonwealth University.

The numbers of liberals per conservative at eight Virginia public schools are listed below:

- Virginia Commonwealth University — 2.6
- William and Mary — 2.5
- University of Virginia — 2.1
- Mary Washington — 2.36
- George Mason — 1.6
- James Madison — 1.38
- Virginia Tech — .93
- Christopher Newport — .89

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# OPINIONS

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## STAFF EDITORIALS

### Alert system woes

Tuesday’s chemical spill at the Marketplace provided the College with its first opportunity to test the new emergency notification system. The system was adopted after the Virginia Tech shootings last April to provide an expedient response network that would inform students of campus emergencies. While it seems that the majority of students were made aware of the situation, the events of the day raised certain questions about the efficiency of the system, as well as the College’s approach to handling potentially tragic events.

The spill reportedly occurred at 9:30 a.m., yet the majority of students did not receive their warning phone calls until well after 11 a.m. because the message was reportedly sent at 11:15. While the situation in question was not extremely threatening, such a wide gap of time — as was the case at Virginia Tech — can potentially cost lives. In addition, Vice President for Student Affairs Sam Sadler said 157

students did not receive the message at all.

Furthermore, the automated text message service, which is supposed to instantaneously contact every registered cell phone on campus, failed to notify students in a timely manner. Many students did not receive text messages until 1 p.m. or later, more than three hours after the incident occurred. Also, some students have text messages from websites blocked on their cell phones and were not notified that the outside company relays the mass text message by e-mail.

It is also disconcerting that an entire month of school passed without a proper test of the system. Sadler informed students that the school was planning a trial run of the system, but the College waited too long. This chemical spill, though not a life-threatening emergency, served as a practical opportunity to test the system, but the results were discouraging.

### Carbon neutrality a must

Yesterday, the Landscape, Energy and Environment Committee endorsed the American College and University Presidents Climate Commitment, a pledge directed at U.S. schools encouraging them to become carbon neutral by the year 2020. College President Gene Nichol has previously deferred on the opportunity to sign the PCC, citing uncertain administrative support. However, the time for action is already overdue.

The College must fully commit to this agreement, which has already been implemented at 400 schools nationwide. Simply reducing emissions is not enough. Nichol must move to save on future costs and contribute to more sustainable development for the Williamsburg area.

This is a marvelous opportunity for Nichol and the College to stay abreast of other top-notch,

forward-thinking institutions that have made similar pledges. The means are already in place: Several academic buildings and other campus facilities will undergo renovations in the coming years, including Tucker Hall and Andrews Hall. Much like the new Jamestown dorms, which were built to be energy efficient, similar goals should be enacted for these new renovations.

With the recent state budget cuts, costs of implementing such a program may be a concern, but they should not prevent Nichol from acting. In the long term, making the College carbon neutral over the next 13 years will save on future energy costs, and will make the College more attractive to prospective students. In a time in which environmental concerns are so prevalent, the College would be wise to keep pace.

The Flat Hat welcomes submissions to the Opinions section. Letters to the Editor and Opinions columns are due at 5 p.m. Sunday for publication the following Tuesday and at 5 p.m. Wednesday for the following Friday. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced, and must include the author’s name, telephone number and any relevant titles or affiliations with campus or national groups. Letters may be no more than 300 words; columns may be no more than 700 words. Letters must be e-mailed to opinions@flathatnews.com. The Flat Hat reserves the right to edit all material. Because of space limitations, The Flat Hat may not publish all submissions. The Flat Hat Editorial Board meets before each issue to discuss the position taken by editorials. Unsigned editorials are written by a designated member of the Editorial Board. All Board editorials reflect the consensus of the Editorial Board. Letters, columns, graphics and cartoons reflect the view of the author only.

### Swemming around the clock

**Sherif Abdelkarim**  
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



College is all about the awkward silences. There’s the awkward silence after a bad first impression. Or that terrible hush you feel after delivering a controversial joke or offensive remark. My favorite is that awkward silent stare you share with a subject of attraction, your eyes shifting toward theirs in pleading calculation, communicating something incommunicable — your thoughts raving, but your mouths awkwardly clamped shut.

Worst of all, though, is the dreadfully awkward silence you get in the classroom. This happens often at the College. The professor asks a no-brainer and the room trembles, becoming utterly soundless. Of course, you would know the question was a no-brainer had you done the reading. You skim through the pages blankly, pretending to comb for the answer. You might even contort your face or stick your tongue out, expressing how close you are to raising your hand, how it’s on the tip of your tongue, if only you could materialize your thoughts into words. Still nobody responds. Soon, dread ensues; you avoid eye contact with your professor as you pray to God Almighty that your name will not be announced. Finally, someone breaks the silence, and there can be heard a collective sigh of relief as you exhale in a combination of ease, shame and embarrassment.

Why aren’t the students doing their readings? Could it be that they have no place to read? I pondered this question, remembering my freshman year and how much I hated Swem for its uncompromising hours, closing at midnight weekdays and at six on weekends. I couldn’t help but compare it to my brother’s library at the University of Virginia, which kicked Swem’s ass for each of the 24 hours it operated.

When I heard about Swem’s budget cuts, I felt a familiar regression to freshman year and how hard it was to read for lack of a quiet room. I met with Dean of University Libraries Connie McCarthy to express my concerns.

Swem’s cuts are a mere scratch, nothing a Band-Aid can’t fix. The cuts are a trickled-down offshoot of a general budget cut by the state of Virginia. Everyone’s getting a little cut here and there. McCarthy assured me that nothing will really change. It’s not really a cut if you think about it. There will be a hiring freeze, at worst. Staff will not be asked to leave, but promotions shouldn’t be

expected anytime soon.

“We just can’t move ahead with our plans,” McCarthy said, referring to the lifelong dream of former Student Assembly President Ryan Scofield ’07 to extend Swem’s hours on nights and weekends. “Late evenings are our first priority, and these hours won’t be cut,” she added.

Although Swem is now open until 2 a.m. on weeknights, there just isn’t enough security to keep the library up and running all night. “The building isn’t designed to operate all night,” McCarthy said, noting issues of security for students and taking into account the staff’s responsibilities. It’s also a matter of practicality, as energy, resources and money would be wasted in maintaining an over-night shift. There isn’t enough demand to keep the building running through the night, as the general student body seems okay with current hours. “It just isn’t practical to have the place open at four in the morning for one or two students,” she said.

Swem won’t extend its hours, but it also won’t cut any. One of the library’s potential plans would be to open earlier on weekends, especially on Sundays. As for finding a quiet place to read at night, well, you’re out of luck. Most campus build-

*Swem won’t extend its hours, but it also won’t cut any ... If you really crave a concentration-friendly environment, adjust your hours to those of Swem.*

ings are locked by midnight. If you even think about doing homework in your dorm or your hall’s lounge or kitchen, you’re an idiot, and have no business reading to begin with. I don’t approve of the library’s 24-hour lounge, though. The bullet-proof, soundless study corner for four is pretty good, but small. For weekends, try Barnes and Noble in Colonial Williamsburg, which is open until 10 p.m. and serves better coffee than Swem’s vending machines.

If you really crave a concentration-friendly environment, adjust your hours to those of Swem. The early bird gets the worm, which I’m told is a good thing. There are far more fascinating things you could be doing at night than writing a paper; plus, you won’t need to squat in a locked-up building all night, reading yourself to unsteady sleep. By doing your readings earlier in the day, you’ll have a well-rested mind and all of Swem to yourself, as most students are nocturnal. In the basement and on the third floor, you will enjoy that eerie Swem silence.

*Sherif Abdelkarim is a junior at the College.*



BY CHAD THOMPSON, FLAT HAT CARTOONIST

### Unnecessary resignation

**Joanna Sandager**  
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Last week, James Madison University student body President Brandon Eickel was charged for plagiarizing more than half of the bulleted goals taken from the campaign website of Student Assembly President Zach Pilchen ’09 and Vice President Valerie Hopkins ’09.

In its Sept. 14 staff editorial, The Flat Hat was “dismayed” by Eickel’s actions and even more by his lack of sincere remorse. Eickel was clearly in the wrong for falsifying ideas and deceiving his peers, but is it really the end of the world? He didn’t fabricate a news article, steal a final exam or lie about having sexual relations with an underclassman. Sure, he didn’t give credit where credit was due, but I believe we are overreacting.

In a way, we should be flattered. Eickel was searching for a clear and effective platform when he used Pilchen and Hopkins’ plans. The College should be accustomed to being a model for excellence by now. Were we not the first university to initiate an honor code and honor council in 1779? Are not countless honor codes modeled, almost verbatim, after ours? I don’t see many officials freaking out because other universities wish to steal our good morals and honor. Why should ideas for a better college community be any different?

In 1776, Thomas Jefferson penned one of the most influential documents of our nation’s history, the Declaration of Independence. In this document he spoke of the inalienable rights of citizens and their right to fight for them. Hailed for his ingenious works, Jefferson, a graduate of the College and a supposed founder of the first honor code, committed a similar crime. Take a moment to crack open John Locke’s “Concerning Civil Government, the Second

Essay,” and one will find striking similarities between the ideas of Locke and Jefferson. I’m sure TJ didn’t Google John Locke and copy and paste, but their views are more than parallel. Nearly half of his ideas are identical, simply put into an American context. Is that not what Eickel did? He copied some of Pilchen and Hopkins’ platform and put it in a JMU context.

America didn’t disown Jefferson because he forgot to use MLA standards to cite Locke’s ideas. Yet, it has been reported that James Madison, another graduate of the College, accused him of being unoriginal — I believe Jefferson was still a noteworthy president despite his lack of originality. If anything, we should be grateful that Jefferson was intelligent enough to realize that Locke was on to something with the whole democracy thing.

Whether it is academic or political, plagiarism is by no means acceptable, but it isn’t

*Whether it is academic or political, plagiarism is by no means acceptable, but it isn’t always black and white.*

always black and white. Was Eickel wrong? Yes. Should he have resigned? No — a simple apology would have sufficed.

I’m not saying that Eickel is as intelligent or qualified as good old TJ, nor do I think Jefferson was without flaw — I mean, he did have slaves. But as history shows, even the well-equipped leaders know they don’t have all the right answers. Sometimes they must look to other more successful governments or institutions for direction.

The moral of the story is to always cite your work. Even if an author is lucky enough to get away with it in his lifetime, it will probably come to bite him in the behind hundreds of years later. This lesson was hard learned by Eickel.

*Joanna Sandager is a freshman at the College.*

### Redefining diversity

**Jessica Gallinaro**  
FLAT HAT STAFF COLUMNIST



Diversity is very difficult to accomplish because it has so many different meanings. For most people, what comes to mind most of the time is race. They forget that diversity can be defined by a variety of factors, including religion, sexual orientation, socio-economic background and gender. Even aspects of a person’s physical features, such as hair highlights and birth marks, can be considered diverse.

In early August, the College’s website detailed the fact that 23 percent of the Class of 2011 is comprised of students of color, including Asians, Pacific Islanders, blacks, Hispanics and American Indians. This class is celebrated for being the most diverse in the history of the College, but why should the meaning of diversity be confined only to race?

I graduated from a small Catholic high school that had very little racial diversity and even less religious diversity. Most of the students came from the same area, so socio-economic differences were lacking, too. The absence of diversity became a sad, but true, joke.

With this in mind, I can appreciate the 23 percent of my class who exhibit racial diversity. As a half-Korean, it’s nice to not be the most ethnic person in the room for a change. Sure, the percentage seems small, but it’s better than that at a lot of other schools. The College, after all, tries to foster an environment in which students can learn about and come to value other cultures

through its many multi-cultural organizations.

Maintaining diversity, however, creates a problem. By trying to keep up with the media attention placed on promoting racial diversity, colleges across the country forget that it does not simply mean a bunch of different races. Some take this warped definition of diversity to the extreme. Having a large pool of racially diverse individuals looks nice on a press release, but using racial stereotypes to further a cause, such as adding diversity to a community, is just as misguided as using these same stereotypes to hurt people. In both of these situations, the group or person is equally degraded despite the best of intentions.

We learned from shows like “Barney” and “Sesame Street” that everyone is special and everyone is an individual. Somehow, around age seven, we decided that we were too old to watch those shows, and we began to forget those lessons. Being straight, Caucasian and Christian can be just as diverse as being bisexual, black and Jewish. To truly show the statistics on diversity here at the College, the admissions office would have to include hundreds of sets of numbers that range from people who have freckles to people of differing religions.

So take a minute and think about diversity. What does it mean to you? What is it a measure of? Is it good or bad? And is it really that important?

*Jessica Gallinaro is a freshman at the College.*

*We learned from shows like “Barney” and “Sesame Street” that everyone is special and everyone is an individual.*





BEAU BLUMBERG — THE FLAT HAT  
7th Grade rehearses its show for tonight. Tickets for the show are \$1 and are available at the door.

# 7th Grade laughs it up

By BETSY DOUGERT  
Flat Hat Staff Writer

Sketch comedy troupe 7th Grade will hold its first performance of the year, titled “7th Grade Opens for Lenny Kravitz” tonight at 8 p.m. in the UC Commonwealth Auditorium.

7th Grade’s humor can be categorized as “slightly eccentric college humor,” member Kelley Quinn ’09 said. However, the group should not to be confused with the prominent improv comedy group Improvizational Theatre, since the complete show is entirely scripted and rehearsed.

“[The show] is pretty hilarious and really cheap,” Quinn said. The admission price is \$1. 7th Grade said it will use all proceeds to purchase a more authentic fat suit than the one it currently owns.

The hour-long event will feature several one-scene comedy sketches that contain everything from transvestite hookers to dolls of elderly people and a pooping seagull. There will also be vampires, ribbon dancing and beanbags. The cast also suggests a cameo by Elizabeth Hurley will occur, though oddly enough that could not be confirmed. The sketches stand independent of each other so that the show loosely resembles the NBC show “Saturday Night Live.”

Despite the title, the content of the show has nothing to do with Lenny Kravitz, although the group has been encouraging a rumor that “Lenny Kravitz is someone’s uncle.” The audience will, however, partake in a Lenny Kravitz coloring contest, for which the grand prize is a date with 7th Grade.

The show promises to make its audience laugh, cry, and occasionally interact with the performers. “We’re pleased that the show coincides with Yom Kippur because we were influenced by Hassidic verse in the creation of the show,” James Damon ’09, president of 7th Grade, said.

No matter what happens tonight, it’s clear that the performers plan on having as much fun as their audience. Damon alleges that the group’s strong bond can be attributed to its long history together. “We used to travel the country in a boxcar solving mysteries,” Damon said.

7th Grade has geared some of the sketches in this particular show toward freshmen who may be unfamiliar with the group. One such sketch is called “Training Midterm” and is a favorite among group members. The group hesitated to provide any information beyond the title, but promises that the sketch is extremely funny. Freshmen are welcome to watch the show and consider auditioning for the group Oct. 1 and 2. No experience is necessary.

The group wants its fans to know that its smell has improved by 10 percent this year. The members now describe themselves as “charming and well-groomed.”

If even that fails to entice, 7th Grade member Hayley Loblein ’08 provided one more reason to attend the show. “Someone in 7th Grade is looking for love,” she said.

# Students enjoy New Town night

By KATIE BORETSKY  
The Flat Hat

Last night, New Town hosted a free event for students from the College. This event featured specials at many of the stores and restaurants in the complex, including extended hours and discounts on merchandise. A local band, Snackbar Jones, performed from 8 to 11:30 p.m. on Main Street.

“My friends and I have been looking forward to this for weeks,” Caitlin Clements ’11 said. “I heard about it during a meeting and have been excited ever since.”

Anticipating a high turnout, the College arranged extra transportation for the event. In addition to the bus from the Williamsburg Area Transportation, the College provided a shuttle that picked up students outside the University Center and the Commons every half hour. “Being a freshman, just having free and easy transportation was nice,” Clements said.

Upon arriving, each student was given a raffle ticket for a chance to win prizes from various New Town merchants. Among of the most coveted prizes were two bicycles from Conte’s Bicycles & Fitness, valued at \$500 apiece. Other prizes included memberships to the Iron-Bound Gym and gift certificates to various stores and restaurants.

At the start of the event, the streets were fairly empty. Many students arrived late due to heavy amounts of homework and later club meetings. Some students who arrived early were disappointed at the initial lack of activity.

“There weren’t many promotions and it seemed a little deserted and a little Stepford-ish,” Cory Chapman ’11 said. “All I got for free were chips and queso, and even then I had to buy something.”

Lisa Maund ’10, hung out outside of Maggie Moo’s Ice Cream and Treatery for two hours. She was frustrated by how hard the coupons were to use, but was not completely

disappointed by the event. “It was nice how the stores were open late,” she said.

Allen Huang ’08 was drawn to New Town by the discounts, although he thought there was not enough activity to stay more than an hour.

Despite initial apathy, students soon filled up the local restaurants. Cheeburger Cheeburger, a retro hamburger shop located near the cinema, was packed with College students. Caitie Zacker, a waitress at the restaurant, noticed a difference in the amount of customers. “The restaurant is very busy tonight,” Zacker said. “It seems like the event is successful.”

Satisfied customers left Cheeburger with coupons for future 99-cent milkshakes.

Overall, the event satisfied many students, becoming livelier as the night went on. People roamed the streets to the sound of music, taking advantage of the many discounts offered.

“It was good fun,” Janelle Neubauer ’10 said. “It was a very nice way to spend a Thursday night before a great weekend.”



ALEX HAGLUND — THE FLAT HAT  
A student enjoys William and Mary Night at New Town. Attendees were given raffle tickets for various prizes such as bikes and gift certificates.



CASEY SCULLY — THE FLAT HAT  
Students model Kappa Delta Campus Golf T-shirts. This philanthropy event supports Prevent Child Abuse America and Avalon.

# Kappa Delta holiday celebrates friendship

By LIANA KLEEMAN  
The Flat Hat

The College’s Kappa Delta sorority recognizes the importance of friendship, particularly among women, and the vital role they play in our lives. In tribute to National Women’s Friendship Day, KD, in collaboration with Inter-Sorority Council, invites all women to come out to a special screening of “Miss Congeniality” at the Sorority Court field from 8 to 11 p.m. Sunday. Free drinks and popcorn will also be included.

The national chapter of KD founded National Women’s Friendship Day in 1999. Its aim is to commemorate the bonds of friendship that exist among women. This day is celebrated on

the third Sunday of September.

Since its establishment nearly a decade ago, the holiday has gained momentum. Governors in 32 states have issued proclamations endorsing this day, and several notable companies promote it, including Vera Bradley and Avon.

This year marks KD’s fourth annual celebration of National Women’s Friendship Day on the College’s campus.

“We are very proud of this day and its significance,” KD Vice President of Public Relations Maggie Woodward ’09 said. “It’s a very relaxing yet fun way to get everyone involved and to celebrate friendships.”

September, in particular, serves

See KD page 7

# Facebook captures forced memories and the unforgettably mundane

Dan Piepenbring  
CONFUSION CORNER COLUMNIST



I often wonder — and this is a testament to the kind of layman’s cultural analysis I’m prone to indulging in — how many pictures are currently on display on the pages of Facebook. While it’s tempting to hazard a guess, I’d probably be very wrong. I will say this much: I think it’s an unfathomably enormous number of pictures. Attempting to imagine each individual picture on Facebook is like trying to wrap your mind around exactly how big infinity is; you’re liable to end up catatonic in your favorite recliner, frothing at the mouth and mumbling something unintelligible about dead relatives in a language that only you can understand.

So here’s my thesis: Digital cameras are neither a boon for photography nor for our social lives. Since film as a material object is no longer part of the picture-taking process, we can take an almost limitless number of photos. This is the luxury of the information age. We don’t have to pause to consider

whether the photos we’re taking are really good, per se, or of sentimental value. If a photo turns out poorly, we can delete it instantly and try again. We can point and snap to our hearts’ content. And we do — all the time.

For evidence, examine a random sample of photographs on Facebook. Let’s say Jane Doe has just uploaded a new album titled, “Tour de Frats pt.1!!!!” In Jane’s album are 32 photos from an outing she had Friday with her closest girlfriends. Accordingly, most of the 32 pictures feature Jane standing in a loose semicircle with those same girlfriends in a nondescript, poorly lit room made of cinderblocks. Sometimes the women are holding blue Solo cups. Sometimes they’re holding red Solo cups. They’re always smiling, and in maybe 78 percent of the pictures they have their arms around each other. In a few pictures, that guy in aviators and a polo shirt with a popped collar can be seen in the background giving the “rock on!” sign.

And that’s just part one.

If you were to ask Ms. Doe about her motives in taking and uploading the photographs, she might suggest something along the lines of, “Well, I really want to remember all of these great times I’ve had with my friends.” This is totally legit. College is so thoroughly hyped as the best four years of our lives

that I often find myself wanting to somehow catalog every moment, even those when I’m only sitting in my room writing about my desire to catalog every moment.

Problem is, there’s nothing memorable about the slew of photos begotten by the era of the digital camera. They contain no pertinent visual information. Thirty-two pictures of Jane Doe & Co. posing in a sloppy crescent will not help Jane Doe remember that night in 32 years — as she enters her 50s. If anything, the pictures will denote a sameness and monotony in collegiate life. The fact is that most photos are not taken for any long-term reason; there’s no act of preservation in mind, no fully formed thoughts about how the photo might best convey its subject. People take pictures because it seems like the right thing to do because everyone else is taking pictures, and because photography has this sly way of making it seem like something momentous is happening.

What’s more, the photos make people more likely to spend their Friday nights staring through a lens instead of actually socializing. There was a girl I met while studying abroad who once spent 30 consecutive minutes looking through a camera and taking dozens of photos of the rest of us. (We were only sitting at a pub, talking.) Hence, there

exist more than 20 pictures of me in which I am in various stages of speaking from that half-hour. Throughout her photo spree, the girl scarcely participated in the conversation.

It’s selfish for anyone to believe that others are genuinely interested in seeing — in vivid and minute-by-minute detail — how we spent our weekend. I see no way around this. We’d be better off conceding that, much to our chagrin, we can’t remember everything, and that not everything we do or say is worth remembering. You can’t photograph the quotidian out of existence. Social events should be photographed because they are unforgettable, not unforgettable because they are photographed.

Centuries from now — presupposing humanity is still alive and kicking — cultural anthropologists could have an interest in the lives of early 21st century youngsters. And for once, they might find too much evidence. They might unearth, download or research our near-infinite collection of photographs, get really bored and back away from the computer screen slowly — amazed at how self-absorbed people can become with the proper technology.

Dan Piepenbring is a Confusion Corner columnist. Check the background of your Facebook pictures — he may just be that guy.



# A heads up on giving a blowjob

Emily Powell  
BEHIND CLOSED DOORS  
COLUMNIST

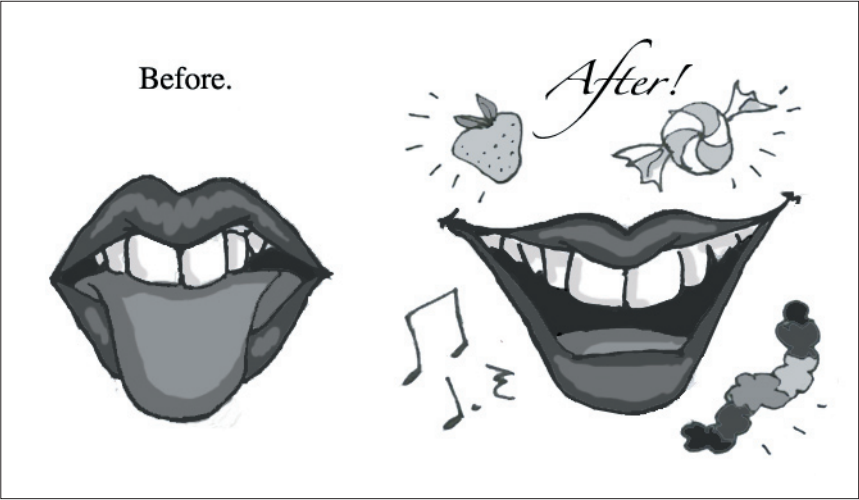


For many women, the first time they perform oral sex is their first time seeing a penis up close and personal. The initial shock may be shortly followed by embarrassment as their inexperience comes to light. If you are performing fellatio because of outside pressure, don't. For both parties, the best thing about oral sex is enthusiasm; if you're uncomfortable, it will show in a negative way. However, if you have decided to have a go at third base, there are a few issues that may not have crossed your mind.

A few of the basic concerns are pretty easy to manage. Of course you should first discuss what you are comfortable with. Make it clear to your partner that you will go at your own pace, and if he is tempted to put his hands anywhere near the back of your head he should remind himself where your teeth are.

If you're worried about any kind of hygiene issues, suggest a shower together beforehand. You can make sure he's cleaning up to your standards; plus, it's amazing foreplay. While in the shower, you could also use that time to make sure his manscaping is up to par. If not, a little trim will do the job.

A major concern for both you and the man in question is teeth. Teeth are not a desirable part of a standard blowjob, but if you have large teeth it could be hard to keep them out of the way. A useful first time tip is to take two gummy worms and put them over your teeth like a mouth guard. Moisten them a bit so that they are soft, and then go to town without the worry of injuring him. If he looks like he's going to laugh, just tell him it's for his own safety. Plus, men tend to enjoy the



interesting sensation. Another huge problem is, no pun intended, size. If he is a larger-than-average boy, you may be worried about just how his penis is supposed to fit into your mouth. That could also lead to pain in your jaw at a later point in time. But this should not be as big a concern as it seems. The porn industry has fooled women into believing that they are only giving good head if they are performing deep throat. This is the act of taking the whole length of the penis into your mouth and throat.

If the mere thought of this makes you gag slightly, you're not alone. Some women can do this, and more power to them, but remember that the average mouth is only four inches deep. With a standard gag reflex, you're looking at a little over three inches as your threshold. Don't feel like you're not pleasing him if you only take in the head of the penis. The head is full of nerve endings, so most of the pleasure he experiences comes from what you are doing to that region. Plus, if you can only get the head into your mouth, it is close enough to your tongue to provide him with pleasure.

Many women find it easier to have their man sit on the edge of the bed or in a chair while they kneel in front as opposed to lying on a bed. This may seem like a hindrance to

feminism, but remember, as long as you are in control of his member, you are definitely in control of him.

Another way to help keep him in check is to use one, or even both, of your hands. Keep one hand firmly around the base of his penis to stop him from moving around too much, and place your other hand flush with your lips, using it to control how deep he enters your mouth as you move. To keep a rhythm, sing through some songs in your head, getting gradually faster. Better yet, hum the songs — the vibrations will be a pleasant surprise for him.

A few last minute tips are all about lubrication. This starts with making sure your lips are not chapped; a little lip balm can ensure that. If you don't think you have enough saliva to be comfortable, there are plenty of store-bought options that also have the added plus of appetizing flavors. However, if a flavor sounds too good to be true, it probably is. Stick with the tried and true flavors like strawberry or mint. As for the ending, the cleanup or lack of it is really up to you. Again, don't feel outside pressure from either side. But once it's done, then your fun can begin — ask him to return the favor.

Emily Powell is the Flat Hat sex columnist. Her favorite flavor is strawberry.

# That Guy Matt Taylor



By SAMANTHA FIEN-HELFMAN  
That Guy Columnist

People who had Matt Taylor as their RA freshman year often referred to him as a beautiful Greek god. When I met him for the first time, I realized why. His long, brown curly locks, poised and defined stature and beautiful green eyes certainly resembled images from Greek mythology. But aside from his striking looks, Matt is passionate, reflective and incredibly dedicated to the College community. He is probably one of the most recognizable names and faces on this campus and involved in more activities than I can list. The majority of our interview on the University Center and terrace was interrupted with students stopping by to say hello. It's strange to think that Matt wasn't always as comfortable in his own skin as he is now. And that, even today, his biggest fear is rejection.

**Tell me about the CEO program and your involvement with that.**

Absolutely. CEO stands for Center for Educational Opportunities and it was an alternative education program for local students who were expelled or suspended for large periods of time. The program mainly worked with 45 to 90 middle school and high-school-aged students. Last semester, the superintendent announced that he had made a decision to cut the program from its former incarnation (which made it into a four-hour night program). The students and community at large rallied and advocated together on behalf of the students to save it as a full-time program. After advocating to the School Board, city council members and James City supervisors, we were able to essentially save and reform it into a seven-hour day program which is now under the new name of "Academy for Life and Learning." It has a new director who is actively seeking input from the community to make it into the best program it can be for students. I am currently a member of a cooperative independent study with about six to seven William and Mary students reviewing alternative education best practices. We are working with the school board and the director of the program to see to it that some of our recommendations are adopted.

**How did you initially find out about these efforts?**

I have a large interest in education policy. I'm a government major, but my focus is in education. I was enrolled in an interdisciplinary studies class entitled Impacts of the Social System on Education last year. It was a service learning course and about 60 percent of the class involved tutoring at a school. I had no idea what to expect. The first day of class we took a field trip out there. I knew that we would be tutoring, but I didn't know that it would be with population of students that it was. Visiting this program and discovering what we'd be working with was daunting to say the least.

**You spent your summer working for the National Assembly for Wales. What did the position entail?**

My summer abroad consisted mainly of drinking lots of wine and champagne during office hours — sometimes with the shadow minister for whom I was working, other times while representing his office at lobbying events. I also proofread a lecture that the minister is delivering at Cambridge and fostered great friendships in the workplace. I completed a fair amount of policy briefs, wrote press releases and did a lot of shameless self-promotion. To be honest, however, I did a lot of things that aren't actually as impressive as they sound. In fact, I just took the job to make people think I'm more important than I really am [laughs].

**If you could repeat one day at the College, which would it be and why?**

I would have to pick Day for Admitted Students. I didn't have a host so I was just walking around campus. I ran into some

cheerleaders and they tried to convince me to join the team. During our discussion, they found out that I had no one to stay with. They committed me to staying with Dan Horgan, referred to at the time as "Drunk Dan." The cheerleaders came that afternoon and picked me up from my hotel. We went to a luau in the Sunken Gardens, a soccer game, a Kappa date party, an off-campus party and finally finished up the night at Phi Tau. At least that was the last place I was supposed to go. To this day, it was my most wild day at WM. Debauchery ensued.

**What other crazy things have you done here?**

All right, rewind back to my freshman year. It was the night before the last final and there were 22 of us left in Hunt. It was 18 degrees outside, by far the coldest weather I had ever been in before. We were sitting in the dorm and I couldn't help but think: How can I take advantage of this experience? It dawned on me to streak. Everyone from Hunt went out together and we streaked the Sunken Gardens in the bitter cold weather. Three people ended up vomiting the rest of the night because the air was so cold and they couldn't handle the air in their lungs. I think a couple of guys ended up with pneumonia. But I came out strong.

**What were you like when you were younger?**

Growing up, I was extremely shy, and surprisingly, I'm still a closet introvert. I had, and still kind of do have, a massive fear of rejection. I think it stems from being the fat kid growing up. When I was in sixth grade I weighed what I weigh now, but I was eight inches shorter. I was also the new kid — I had just moved to Houston. Kids aren't nice at that age, especially when your name rhymes with "fat." Those were the awkward years of my life.

**You, shy? I don't believe it.**

Yes, I was really shy. In kindergarten, I participated in the science fair. All of the students were sitting in the waiting room and we would be called into the cafeteria one row of projects at a time. That way, when a judge came by, we would be at our project waiting. I was at my project waiting for the judge and realized I badly had to go to the bathroom but I was too shy to ask if I could leave my project and didn't want the judge to pass me by. I peed my pants, and the judge had to hold a simple conversation with me about my board while I stood there with a huge pee stain all over my pants. I was wearing green sweatpants, I still remember. It wasn't that embarrassing at the time but, in retrospect, it was pretty bad. It just seemed like the right thing to do at the time. Would I do it again? I won't say that I wouldn't ... maybe during a job interview, we'll see.

**What is the nicest thing anyone has ever done for you on campus?**

It is so hard to think of just one. I am truly so blessed. When I was a sophomore, I was an RA for Taliaferro, and at the time, my parents were living in Houston. It was days after Katrina slammed New Orleans and Hurricane Rita was a category 5 hurricane, barreling literally straight towards our home and I was pretty shaken up. All my residents gave me a huge card saying that I was in their prayers and it was just so nice because it's hard to be so far away from home and I didn't feel like I had anyone to whom I could relate.

**If you had a word of advice to impart upon underclassmen, what would it be?**

Get as actively involved in as many things as you possibly can. Then, dedicate yourself to as many of those as you can, because the more dedicated I've been, the more I've gotten out of those activities. I've gotten so much out of so many different things. We're only here for such a short period of time. After this place, there's never going to be another place where you are surrounded by such incredible people and an open minded, comfortable environment.

# KD holiday celebrates friendship

7TH GRADE from page 6

as an ideal time to honor friends at the College. Beginning a new school year always introduces new faces and friendships, yet it is also a time to reconnect with old friends and to pick up where you left off from last spring.

"It's a great time to meet new girls on your hall," Woodward said.

KD remains the only sorority to have founded a national holiday. In expanding the original vision of National Women's Friendship Day to the College's campus, KD hopes to connect women everywhere.

"Our screen on the green event is a great way for sororities to reach out to girls unaffiliated with Greek life, a time just for girls to be girls and enjoy each other's friendship," KD Vice President of Membership Lauren Queen '08 said.



IRENE ROJAS — THE FLAT HAT  
All decked out, a team plays Campus Golf last March. Campus Golf is the most widely attended and successful philanthropy at the College.

## SUDOKU

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answers at flathatnews.com


## HOROSCOPES


**Virgo:** Aug. 23 - Sept. 22  
 Don't be afraid if you hear loud and strange sounds outside your window tonight; that's just your bike being stolen.


**Libra:** Sept. 23 - Oct. 22  
 A surprise is right around the corner. Unfortunately, that corner is Confusion Corner and the surprise is a distracted motorist.


**Scorpio:** Oct. 23 - Nov. 21  
 We know you go for the strong and silent type, but the amount of time you're spending with the statues is starting to creep out the tourists.


**Sagittarius:** Nov. 22 - Dec. 21  
 While there are some intelligent groups on Facebook, joining them shouldn't be a substitute for going to class.


**Capricorn:** Dec. 22 - Jan. 19  
 This Sunday, your usual hijinks will lead to a rather large marsupial finding its way into your room. Don't make any sudden movements.


**Aquarius:** Jan. 20 - Feb. 18  
 World domination and a spot on "Top Chef" features heavily in your plans this week. The stars wish you the best of luck with that.


**Pisces:** Feb. 19 - March 20  
 A number of monkeys typing on a number of keyboards could write that paper for you, but people will probably notice if you try to keep them at Swem.

**Aries:** March 21 - April 19  
 Your life may resemble an endless, black abyss, but that doesn't mean everyone wants to hear you complain about it.

**Taurus:** April 20 - May 20  
 Start taking responsibility for your actions this week. Let's face it — there's a limit to what you can blame on your evil twin.

**Gemini:** May 21- June 21  
 We understand that you have a complete appreciation for Wawa, but when it starts talking to you, it's time to go home for a while.

**Cancer:** June 22 - July 22  
 Your late night study sessions are admirable, but you will almost certainly disturb your roommate if you blast "The Imperial March" for the duration.

**Leo:** July 23 - Aug. 22  
 Spoiler alert. Unfortunately, the rest of your miserable life can be summed up in two-and-a-half words: You're doomed.

compiled by Mariah Walker





COURTESY PHOTO — ARTS & CRAFTS

## Drew releases spirited solo LP

By PHILIP ZAPFEL  
*The Flat Hat*

What exactly constitutes a side project? Is there such a thing in a collective where every member’s supposed “solo” works are produced with contributions from all of their friends and bandmates? With a laid-back, messy, indie rock album this good, does that question even matter?

These questions are raised by the newest import from the current capital of the indie rock world, the confusingly titled Broken Social Scene Presents: Kevin Drew’s “Spirit If...” Toronto’s Broken Social Scene is an amorphous collective of area musicians that covers the entire stylistic spectrum, from the straightforward pop of Feist to the instrumental jazzy experimentalism of Do Make Say Think. The band began as a side project of Kevin Drew and Brendan Canning; four years and 17 more members later, it has become one of the most critically acclaimed rock acts of the decade. “You Forgot It In People” and “Broken Social Scene (Windsurfing Nation)” stand as two of the best off-beat pop/rock albums since the turn of the century, and the band members have used this success to ply their individual talents to a larger audience. This album by Drew is the first in the “Broken Social Scene Presents” series, in which the band plays and supports one of its members’ own work.

Not surprisingly, the album sounds very similar to BSS; Drew is the band’s leader and frequent lead singer. Here, his semi-observed voice is set back into the music, rarely taking full control of a song. The kitchen-sink approach to production is here too, as all the instruments (including Drew’s voice) have a close-to-equal share of the attention.

However, one of the most redeeming aspects of a Broken Social Scene album is the group’s genre-hopping. BSS’s best tracks range from the pseudo-rap “Windsurfing Nation” to the sunny beach-pop of “Looks Just Like the Sun” (off “Broken Social Scene (Windsurfing Nation)”) and “You Forgot It in People,” respectively). Part of the fun of listening to the group is the fact that it never sticks to one style.

On the other hand, Drew’s full control over this album eliminates much of the different influences familiar to BSS’s sound. Many of the songs sound like the band’s most straightforward rock songs.

This artistic control lets Drew’s influence shine through. The band’s Pavement-like sound is still present, of course, but a newcomer to the list of BSS influences is The Boss. “Lucky Ones” is a laid-back rocker in the Springsteen vein, with a powerful riff of piano and guitar surrounding Drew’s triumphant chorus, “I know we’re gonna be the lucky ones.” In addition, the Springsteen-isms team up with sounds reminiscent of My Bloody Valentine to turn what might be a Broken Social Scene classic into a messy anthem of feedback and flying guitars in “Back Out On The...”

Drew is also influenced by his closer contemporaries. His girlfriend, Leslie Feist (Drew, you’re a lucky man), lends the album its female vocals, a staple on BSS albums, in the very Feist-like “Aging Faces/Losing Places.”

Overall, very few songs on “Spirit If...” match

See **DREW** page 9

## ‘Yuma’ does Western genre justice

By GREG BENSON  
*The Flat Hat*

One of the first things that strikes you about “3:10 To Yuma” is that it’s bleak. Really bleak. The story, characters and even dialogue are all grim. As a consequence, the film feels just about as desolate and humorless as the barren Arizona landscape it depicts. Even the normally jolly Alan Tudyk (“Serenity”) cuts a rather somber figure. Such is the world that director James Mangold (“Walk the Line”) has chosen to set his contribution to the Western revival genre.

This particular installment centers around small-time, down-and-out amputee rancher Dan Evans, played by Christian Bale (“Batman Begins”), who, through a stroke of what is either really good fortune or really bad luck, winds up aiding in the capture of notorious gang leader Ben Wade, played by Russell Crowe (“Gladiator”). The stubborn Evans agrees to transport Wade to a prison train bound for Yuma, motivated by a \$200 reward, as well as that pesky need for redemption that plagues guys like him in movies like this. The stage is set for the horse chases and gun play that follow them through the mountains of the Southwest for the next day and a half.

For his hero/villain team, Mangold picked two veteran stony-faced actors to complement his stony-gray backdrop. Just as he shrank himself down into an emaciated shell for “The Machinist” and immediately built himself back up for his role in “Batman Begins,” Bale has once again flawlessly matched his body to his protagonist character. His hair is long and



COURTESY PHOTO — LIONSGATE

**Christian Bale (LEFT) and Russell Crowe star as farmer Dan Evans and criminal Ben Wade in “3:10 to Yuma.”**

unkempt, his face is greasy, his frame looks ever so slightly shrunken from hunger and his eyes even look like they’re set a little deeper into his face. He’s the very picture of misery, and never once does he get a chance to crack that boyish grin that served him so well as Bruce Wayne. Crowe, on the other hand, gets plenty of chances to smirk as Zen-master criminal Wade. It’s a character type dating back to the old glory days of the horse opera, and Crowe does justice to all the old gunslinger villains from whom his character so obviously draws.

Despite the usual characters and surroundings, ‘Yuma’ is not, strictly speaking, a typical Western. It wears

the guise well, but throws in sneaky little variations that intrigue in the way they unexpectedly creep up on you. Take, for example, the decidedly evil Charlie Prince (Ben Foster, “X-Men: The Last Stand”), Wade’s second-in-command. The two show an interesting reversal of the dark master/sensitive protege relationship, with Wade sketching birds and romancing barmaids while ruthless and blood-thirsty Charlie basks in the gruesome glory of his crimes. Charlie is clearly a monster, yet he remains fiercely loyal to his more humanized master, seemingly out of nothing more than a strong sense of fidelity.

The movie contains a small hand-

ful of these situations, toying with convention before casting it aside, and these parts show the movie at its finest. It flirts with being a traditional Western, yet has moments where it looks poised to reinvent the genre with a fresh take on some old ideas.

The problem, though, is the film never quite comes down on either side of the fence between new and old. This makes it all the more infuriating when, at the very end, the movie lapses into cliché. At the risk of ruining the ending, the right people are killed by the right people, the right guys spare the right guys and everybody falls

See **‘YUMA’** page 9

## Animal Collective mixes tasty ‘Strawberry Jam’

By SPENCER ATKINSON  
*Flat Hat Photography Editor*

New York-based Animal Collective has been working on an album draft for the past seven years. On its newest effort, “Strawberry Jam,” the group’s lines find focus and clarity. On the band’s seventh studio album, Animal Collective balances its abstract percussive rumblings, off-kilter electrical sound vistas and pop sensibilities nicely. The album is playful and reminiscent of the thrills of childhood but also offers the depth characteristic of their freak-folk/indie-rock fusion.

Never heard of Animal Collective? Listen up — it could be your new favorite band. Listened to Animal Collective before but found the group’s eccentricities a bit much? Things are a bit more streamlined on ‘Jam.’ In short, ‘Jam’ is like a foreign dessert; it could be your new favorite album of 2007 if you put aside your reservations and give it a taste. And, with a cover photo of the fleshiest strawberry jam ever, it would seem that the substance is all accounted for.

But who is Animal Collective? The group’s history is full of noise experiments, but with its last album, “Feels,” Animal Collective offered a far more accessible, straightforward approach to its unique brand of music-making. A transition toward acoustics was set up by 2004’s critically acclaimed “Sung Tongs,” which focused almost exclusively on an acoustic guitar accompanied by a two-hollow-voices-in-a-room dynamic. Tribal drums and static wailing still have a place in the band’s repertoire, but vocalist Avey Tare’s performance on past efforts (and especially on “Strawberry Jam”) grounds the

group in familiar territory for anyone accustomed to indie-rock experimentation. Animal Collective’s tone and scope often lands somewhere around that of space-rockers Pink Floyd. The group’s music invokes the idea of memory and past experiences. The band has taken a few detours into avant-garde noisiness, but its creations are instantly recognizable as the work of Animal Collective, despite the group’s tendency to swap members between albums. ‘Jam’ sees core members Tare, Panda Bear (who released his excellent solo album “Person Pitch” earlier this year), Geologist and Deacon reassembling for an album that rides on the edge of accessibility.

‘Jam’ is a musical buffet — it offers a little bit of everything. Electronics, acoustics, snippets of conversation slowed down and a range of samples held together by a surprisingly cohesive creative vision. There are elements you have heard before and noises you may recall, in union with unknown inventions fresh with exploratory energy.

Sounds come in many flavors on ‘Jam.’ The crunchy bleeps and bleeps of opener “Peacebone” should sound familiar to fans of electronic music, but what follows will sound quite alien to most listeners. Think merry-go-round music filtered through a mumbled conversation under late-night lights — but with a beat. It sounds like what “Sgt. Pepper’s”-era Beatles would have produced if someone had equipped them with a modern sampler and computer.

Tare’s vocals glide between conversational intonation and childlike humming. A few sampled bestial screams are thrown in for fun. And it is fun. Uncovering the layers of sound within each song is rewarding and stimulating. Other sampled



COURTESY PHOTO — FAT-CAT.CO.UK, FAT CAT RECORDS

**Four-piece noise-rock outfit, Animal Collective, released “Strawberry Jam” Sept. 11.**

sounds used in the album include gurgling water, swirling air, insect chatter, a muted chainsaw-esque buzz and astral-like combinations of common, everyday noise. Piano segments, keyboards and clicking, pencil-on-the-edge-of-a-desk percussion also make appearances. Hand claps and stomping join drummer and backing vocalist Panda Bear in the free-floating album closer “Derek.” It’s a late summertime tune perfect for the transitional days of autumn, with Panda’s vocals reminiscent of Brian Wilson’s airy delivery, though with a colder edge.

Diversity plays a central role in the enjoyment

See **‘JAM’** page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — REPRISE

## Hot Hot Heat reinvents sound on ‘Happiness’

By KASI KANGARLOO  
*Flat Hat Copy Editor*

Hot Hot Heat’s latest release, “Happiness Ltd.,” certainly supplies what any fan could hope for in an album — and perhaps even a bit more. While staying true to its brash dance roots and guitar-heavy beats, the band has truly managed to push the envelope in terms of genuine emotional content, as well as its own brand of musical innovation. Even with all this, what one ultimately finds in the album is a sense of the same thing that the more refined members of the indie-rock genre have been churning out for years.

From hearing the very first lines of the album — “Happiness is limited / But misery has no end” —

there is indeed a compelling sense of honesty that was lacking on previous releases. No longer are we trampled by the dance-punk catchiness of songs like “Goodnight, Goodnight” or “Shame on You,” which, while they certainly had charm, were more than enough to incite a headache after eight tracks. Steve Bays’ latest lyrics, coupled with the gaudy power of his vocals on songs like “Good Day to Die” and “Waiting for Nothing,” now communicate far more what the 2005 album “Elevator” ever could have hoped, making for a slew of love songs that puts the band at the top of its game.

The forward progress definitely doesn’t stop at the lyrics, however. The band has clearly made a serious effort to shed some of the

unabashed catchiness that characterized its last two records. The end result is evident right from the start. The opening and title track, “Happiness Ltd.,” begins discreetly enough — first with a light, percussive line in the synthesizer and then a somber bass line, laying the groundwork of a mellow instrumental opening. By the time Bays is on the scene, fading out with a mournful “it’s over,” an operatic piano break takes us right into a full-blown chorus in which Bays shouts lines over a breakdown in the band.

While the first track ends rather explosively, songs such as the single “Let Me In” and “Outta Heart” provide for the simplest, yet most moving, listening experience on the album, bringing us

once more away from the in-your-face attitude of previous releases. In “Outta Heart,” Bays screams out, “Are you worth your weight in gold?” This is followed by the backgrounds’ response, “Oh, no! Oh, no!” above the lush sound of strings, making for an emotional effect that’s only now been explored by the band. But fear not, those of you whose blood still runs on zesty dance-punk, for songs like “5 Times Out of 100” and “My Best Fiend” pick up right where the group’s last records left off, offering the piano/synth beats and jazzy vocals that doubtlessly brought the band its fame.

Yet with all the lovely praise this album has afforded, some

See **HHH** page 9



# Coming Attractions

— compiled by  
Alex Guillén



**Joni Mitchell — “Shine”** (Hear Music)  
Inspired by the war in Iraq, Canadian folk singer Joni Mitchell’s new album uses her amazing voice and song-writing skills to focus on environmental and political themes. This is her first real studio album since 1998, and Mitchell doesn’t disappoint: her message is powerful and her delivery is, as usual, fantastic. **Sept. 25**



**Iron & Wine — “The Shepherd’s Dog”** (Sub Pop)  
The third studio album from Iron & Wine (stage name of singer Sam Beam), although not overtly political, was somewhat based on President George W. Bush’s reelection. Beam has the ability to record rambunctious songs followed by sensual melodies. “The Shepherd’s Dog” is another unique album. **Sept. 25**



**“The Jane Austen Book Club”** (Mockingbird Pictures)  
This adaptation of the 2004 Karen Joy Fowler novel portrays six people with fractured lives forming a book club dedicated solely to Jane Austen’s six novels. The cast makes a man-friendly chick flick. And don’t worry about understanding Austen references; you need not have ever taken a class in Tucker to enjoy this film. **Sept. 21**



**“Good Luck Chuck”** (Lionsgate)  
Dane Cook may be funny on stage, but how about in a Hollywood comedy? A heavily manscaped Cook stars as cursed dentist Chuck; every woman he has sex with immediately finds her one true love elsewhere. With hundreds of women begging for a quickie, Chuck’s curse doesn’t seem so bad — until he falls in love. **Sept. 21**



**“Chuck”** (NBC)  
Once you suspend your disbelief, NBC’s new sci-fi dramedy “Chuck” is actually pretty good. Chuck (Zachary Levi) is a nerd employed at an electronics store who accidentally downloads large amounts of sensitive data from the CIA to his brain (I told you to suspend your disbelief). Now, he works to stop terrorists and assassins. **Sept. 21**

# HOLLYWOOD GOSSIP

**Lots of boys at plays**  
During a recent Broadway performance of “The Lion King,” Michael Jackson appeared with his off-the-wall children. Paris, Prince and Blanket moonwalked in with their dangerous dad, all wearing wigs and baseball caps. The clan snapped pictures for a few minutes, and then beat it. The bad man in the mirror was in town to pose for the cover of Italian Vogue. You are not alone: we don’t get it either.



**More twins for J.Lo**  
Jennifer Lopez has been waiting for tonight for years. She and husband Marc Anthony confirmed that after two years of trying, Jenny from the block is finally preggers. Feelin’ so good, the couple announced that they may even be expecting twins when the spring due date comes around. The doctor wasn’t able to tell for sure from the ultrasound, but they plan to check in a few weeks when she is further along.



**They’re trying to be nice**  
Jealousy, bitterness, betrayal; that’s MTV. The network flipped when execs found “The Hills” stars Lauren Conrad, Audrina Patridge and Whitney Port on the guest list for the premiere of “Gossip Girl.” They instead hosted an event for the “Legally Blonde” musical, but met up with the “Gossip” girls afterwards. According to an MTV rep, “The girls’ hosting duties were on their schedule for weeks.”



**The Pitt family fight club**  
Brad Pitt and his mighty-hearted homewrecker Angelina Jolie are far from finished with their true romance. Mr. and Mrs. Smith, already the proud parents of four kids, have a mission for their collective life or something like it. After seven years in Tibet, the couple plans to have at least five more children to add to their multicultural brood.

— compiled by Alice Hahn

## Foster stars as vigilante in ‘Brave One’

By DAVID MENDLER  
The Flat Hat

Revenge. The desire for it can be powerful and intense. It controls people. It blurs the line between right and wrong. But should people be able to break the law in order to achieve their own personal justice? The latest psychological thriller on the big screen, “The Brave One,” poses the question of whether people can differentiate between what is lawful and what is just.

The movie stars two-time Oscar winner Jodie Foster (“The Silence of the Lambs”) as Erika Bain, a radio personality in New York City and bride-to-be who seems to be living a perfect life. Her fairy tale takes a dark turn, though, when she is victimized in a traumatic mugging that takes the life of her fiancé, played by Naveen Andrews (“Lost”). Erika finds herself bruised both physically and emotionally, and when the police are unable to find any leads to solve the case, she takes matters into her own hands. Living in fear of a

city that she once loved, she feels she must protect herself and other innocent victims from criminals like the ones who killed her fiancé. But at what point does acting in self-defense turn into murder?

This storyline may seem quite familiar to the audience: a scorned woman — abused and battered — seeks revenge on her attackers. The film is even reminiscent of a previous Foster movie, “Flightplan.” But this movie takes it one step further — adding various plotlines and characters to the mix. With his unique use of cinematography and shortened scenes, director Neil Jordan (“The Crying Game”) is able to creatively demonstrate the unstable mental state of a crazed vigilante in her pursuit of revenge.

Foster delivers one of her patent performances, reminding us why she is one of the most highly regarded actresses in Hollywood. And while we may recognize Foster in this role, she stands out in her ability to realistically deliver the gut-wrenching pain of someone who has lost her true love.

While somewhat tangential to the plotline, Terrence Howard (“Hustle and Flow”) makes a noteworthy appearance as Detective Mercer, who is investigating the crimes that Erika may have committed. Howard delivers another powerful performance playing the seasoned detective who, following a painful divorce, has developed a bleak outlook on life. His character’s need for comfort and friendship is the opening for a relationship with Foster’s character, showcasing the talent and versatility of both actors.

Oscar winner Mary Steenburgen (“Melvin and Howard”) plays Erika’s reassuring mentor, who perfectly complements the crazed demeanor of Foster’s character.

Filled with action sequences and graphic violence, this movie is definitely not for the faint of heart. The chilling and surprisingly realistic killings are brutal, and during my viewing prompted screams from the audience. The heart-pounding speed of the camera work during the action scenes produces extra



COURTESY PHOTO — WARNER BROS. PICTURES  
**Jodie Foster (LEFT) stars as Erika Bain, a New York woman who turns vigilante after Detective Mercer (Terrence Howard) finds no leads in her fiancé's murder.**

anticipation. While the action sequences keep those in the audience on the edges of their seats, the plot stretches out for too long. Random characters seemed to be introduced into the story that had no relation to the encompassing

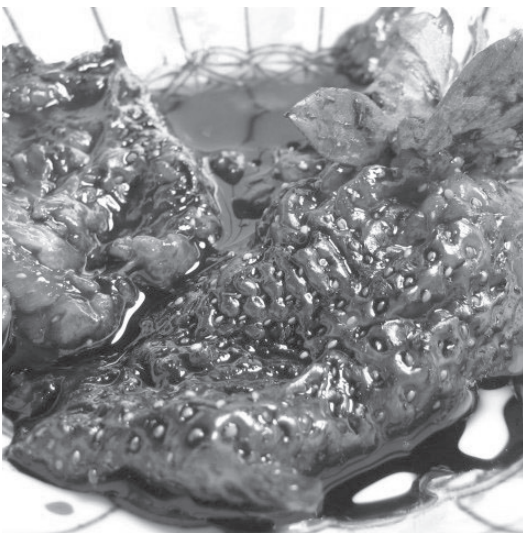
plotline. Clocking in at over two hours, the constant excitement could exhaust you. Still, what it loses in originality, it makes up for in great violence and action — what many an audience craves. ★★★★★

## ‘3:10 to Yuma’ chugs on grit, gunfights

‘YUMA’ from page 8

neatly and without a lot of fuss into their archetypes. If you’ve seen any movie that ends in a giant shoot-out, then ‘Yuma’ holds no surprises. That’s a real cause for disappointment, because after almost two hours without a scrap of relief from the dramatic tension and lean dialogue, you wind up

wanting to be surprised. You want these characters — that the frugal Mangold and his taut actors have made into human beings — to break out of the rut. All redemption and resolution only lead to a clear-cut, clean ending. For a film as gloriously dark and murky as this one is, you can’t help but leave with a bad taste in your mouth. ★★★★★



COURTESY PHOTO — DOMINO

## AC’s new ‘Jam’ proves tasty

‘JAM’ from page 4

of “Strawberry Jam,” as with the rest of Animal Collective’s music. Lyrical content also hits an interesting range of emotional chords. In “Unsolved Mysteries,” Tare muses on the passage of time: “What’s graying anyway? / What’s aging anyway? / It’s not like growing in the wild.”

Animal Collective considers family, the magic of personality and the beauty of time spent with those you love. In “Fireworks,” Avey quietly sings of the intangible feelings of responsibility, but finds a way to work in unexpected details — such as pooing babies — to keep you on your toes. Scattered visuals of dinosaur bones and fawns keep the strangeness and aforementioned reflection in an appropriate balance. Animal Collective’s lyrical strength ultimately rests in personal and relatable imagery, which adds to the depth of the soundscapes on the album.

Give “Strawberry Jam” a listen. Its quirks might be a bit spicy at first, especially for Animal Collective newcomers. But spin the disc with an open mind and its freshness just might transport you back to a time when you could eat as much candy as you wanted and roll in the grass on a cloudless day. ★★★★★

## Moran ’03 wins gold

ED MORAN from page 10

just kind of walk away with the top three and then you get your head kicked in. It kind of makes you sit back and reevaluate what you’re doing.”

Moran came into the 5-km at the U.S. Championships a little less sharp than he would have liked due to a hamstring injury, but prior to the U.S. Championships he had set two personal bests, running 13:20.35 for 5,000-m at the Mt. SAC Relays and 27:43.13 over 10,000-m at Stanford’s Payton Jordan Invitational. Those times also satisfied “A” standards for the World Championships.

Even with a disappointing U.S. Championship, Moran rebounded well, taking third in the U.S. Men’s 10-km Championships at Peachtree in Atlanta, finishing behind sub-one hour half mara-

thoner Ryan Hall and race-winner Abdi Abdirahman. Moran added another personal best, 7:50.34 for 3,000-m, at the DN Galan meet in Stockholm to finish off his current cycle.

“I would say even more than the PR’s, staying healthy for an entire season has been a huge confidence boost,” Moran said. “To actually get through an entire cycle healthy and still move forward, that’s just meant a whole lot to me.”

Staying healthy allows Moran to build upon the successes of 2007 as he prepares for Olympic qualifying in 2008.

“Now, I think that I’m ready to take that next step to be consistently in the top five in the country at distances five to 10,000 meters,” Moran said.

With that new mindset, Moran will approach 2008 with a singular focus on the U.S. Olympic Trials next June and July and with hopes for a trip to Beijing.

## Women’s soccer wins 2-0

WOMEN’S SOCCER from page 10

overwhelming majority of the second half, they were unable to score for a great deal of it, despite winning several corner kicks that resulted in opportunities for a goal. After many unsuccessful set ups and strong shots — one of which hit the Albany goalie in the chest, sending her flying backwards — the team’s frustration began to show, as play became frenzied. In the 63rd minute, however, the Tribe’s hard work finally paid off, as junior Danielle Collins dribbled through an Albany defender’s legs and passed to senior Mary MacKenzie Grier, who fired the ball into the goal for a 2-0 lead.

Grier felt much relief after the goal. “It was nice to put another one away,” she said. “We need to finish more opportunities but a win’s a win.” Momentum from the goal carried the College through

the remainder of the half, making several shots on goal and preventing Albany from creating opportunities to score. Despite the victory, Head Coach John Daly was less than pleased with the team’s performance.

“The game was a poor display. We have got to play a lot better than we did tonight,” Daly commented at the end of the match. Despite many disappointments, both the head coach and the team have confidence that the Tribe will do well in the CAA Tournament. When asked if the team has a shot at winning the conference, Grier did not hesitate to respond with a “Hell yeah.”

“We have a strong conference, but we are going to keep moving forward and build upon the game tonight,” she added. “We are never satisfied.”

The College’s next test will be Sunday at 2 p.m. in Charlottesville against No. 4 ranked University of Virginia.

## HHH changes its sound

HHH from page 8

serious gripes need be addressed in order to provide a complete picture. Though the album sounds like a brand new Hot Hot Heat, it has quite successfully managed to sound like a mix of other significant rock acts, most notably The Bravery, Interpol and The Killers. The opening track clearly takes elements from Interpol’s melodic use of the bass guitar and The Killers’ anthemic breakdowns.

Where the band strays from such blatant influence, it simply reverts back to the same old territory, slightly altered, in songs like “5 Times Out of 100.” Though the album offers a solid array of songs, it’s basically what has been on the market for the better part of the current decade. But hey, if that’s what you’re looking for, look no further. Hot Hot Heat is in the here and now, and they’re apparently here to stay. ★★★★★



SPORTS IN BRIEF

MEN'S BASKETBALL

Tribe announces schedule; opens against Georgetown

The College begins their season with several challenging road games, including the season opener Nov. 10, against recent Final Four participant Georgetown University, who starts the season ranked in the top 5. Following that game, the Tribe will travel to Raleigh to battle North Carolina State University before coming home Nov. 25 to face Houston Baptist University. The Tribe looks to continue last year's success, when the team posted its highest win total in almost a decade, finishing with a final record of 15 wins..

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL

College to travel to Hawaii, N.C. for tournaments

Women's basketball looks to build on last season's strong performance with a 30-game season that includes 12 home games and 12 non-conference games. The Tribe will begin its season on Nov. 9 at the Elon University tournament, the team's earliest ever start to a season. Over winter break, the College will head to Honolulu to participate in the University of Hawaii tournament before returning to open its Colonial Athletic Association schedule at home against Towson University Jan. 6. Defending CAA champion and rival James Madison University heads to Williamsburg Saturday, Feb. 3.

SWIMMING AND DIVING

Crispino '02 hired to lead resurgent program

Matt Crispino '02 has been hired as the College's director of swimming and diving, replacing McGee Moody. Crispino's experience includes an assistant coaching job at Colgate University where his swimmers achieved 49 personal best times, including four school records. Crispino also served as an assistant at West Point where he experienced success. As a swimmer for the Tribe, Crispino served as captain and earned Most Valuable Swimmer honors for the 2001-02 season. The Tribe is coming off a very successful season as the women (8-4) finished last season as CAA conference champions and the men had their first winning season (6-3-1) since 1998-99.

— Men's and women's basketball by Kevin Lonabaugh, swimming by Andy Andrews.

SCOREBOARD

VOLLEYBALL

9/18 @ Norfolk St. — W, 3-0

MEN'S SOCCER

9/19 vs. UNC — T, 0-0

WOMEN'S GOLF

9/18 — COLONIAL INTER-COLLEGIATE — 6th place

SCHEDULE

Fri., Sept. 21

WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL  
@ UNC-Wilmington — 7 p.m.

WOMEN'S TENNIS

U.Va. Fall Invitational

FIELD HOCKEY

vs. NORTHEASTERN — 7 p.m.

Sat., Sept. 22

MEN'S GOLF

Sea Trail Intercollegiate

WOMEN'S TENNIS

U.Va. Fall Invitational

FOOTBALL

@ Virginia Tech — 1:30 p.m.

VOLLEYBALL

@ Georgia State — 7 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER

vs. VIRGINIA TECH — 7 p.m.

Sun., Sept. 23

MEN'S GOLF

Sea Trial Intercollegiate

WOMEN'S TENNIS

U.Va. Fall Invitational

FIELD HOCKEY

vs. RADFORD — 1 p.m.

WOMEN'S SOCCER

@ Virginia — 2 p.m.

FOOTBALL PREVIEW: VIRGINIA TECH

Facing Goliath

Underdog Tribe travels to Blacksburg to take on 17th-ranked Hokies

By MILES HILDER  
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

How do you top a thrilling double overtime victory? Try going on the road and defeating an FBS, formerly Division I-A, powerhouse. That's exactly the task that awaits the Tribe this week as the College travels to Blacksburg Saturday to face Virginia Tech for the first time in over 20 years.

The Tribe is riding a high after squeaking out a victory over Liberty University last Saturday, giving the team back-to-back wins for the first time in two seasons. It's a good thing, because the College will need every advantage it can get to pull off an upset of goliath proportions against Tech.

"When you are playing the big dogs, it's always a great feeling," junior cornerback Derek Cox said. "It's like you're playing your big brother, you get a chance to try to show them up. We're going out there with goals of doing what Appalachian State did. We're approaching it like business."

Appalachian State University, an FCS (formerly Division I-AA) powerhouse, shocked the college football world three weeks ago after upsetting the University of Michigan — Ann Arbor. Michigan was ranked fifth in the nation at the time. Virginia Tech enters Saturday's contest ranked 17th.

So what are the College's chances of pulling off the upset? Last season the Tribe battled the University of Maryland to a 27-14 loss. Maryland went on to garner a top-25 ranking and bowl berth at the season's end. Will the Tribe be able to hang with Virginia Tech as well?

"Usually, even when we've played other [Division I-A teams] over the years, you kind of look at the tape and say 'we probably can do this,' " Head Coach Jimmye Laycock said. "You look at it with Tech, and we are still looking. They do a great job of getting to the football, especially defensively. They really run to the football."

The Tribe enters the game boasting one of the FCS' top offensive attacks, but averages of 353.7 yards passing per game and 47.3 points per game seem unlikely to hold up against the swarming Tech defense. But that won't stop the College from throwing everything they have at the Tech unit.

"They have a really good defense," junior quarterback

J a k e  
Phillips said. "They have a lot of athletes, some big guys. We aren't going to worry so much about laying back. We are going to

g o  
right at them, play our game, and give them our best shot."

The Tribe holds an 18-39-4 overall record against Virginia Tech, last defeating the Hokies 27-15 in 1976. Coach Laycock has faced Tech six times in his tenure at the College but has yet to record a win against the formidable Tech squad.

The College will be without its top two rushers, as junior running back DeBrian Holmes is out for the season and redshirt freshman running back Courtland Marriner continues to rehab from a hand injury suffered against VMI. Senior Tony Viola will see most of the time in the backfield. Viola's enthusiasm and hard-nosed running will give the Tribe an added momentum boost at Lane Stadium in front of the largest crowd the team will face all season. Viola stepped in for the injured Holmes in last Saturday's win over Liberty and performed well, rushing for 57 yards on 15 carries.

"I think [playing Virginia Tech is] exciting, I think our players will be excited about it," Laycock said. "That's one of the reasons we have always wanted to play a I-A type program like this. It's part of the player's college football experience to be able to go into that environment and



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT

Junior quarterback Jake Phillips (under center) and the rest of the Tribe offense will be put to the test against Va. Tech when they face off tomorrow at 1:30 p.m.

experience that environment. If you're a competitor and you love to play the game and you like all that, then you'll really enjoy being in that type of environment and competing in that type of environment. And I think our players will be looking forward to that."

An athletic department official at the College with knowledge of the deal told The Flat Hat that the one-game contract between the two schools calls for Virginia Tech to pay the College \$200,000.

Kickoff is set for 1:30 p.m. Saturday. The game can be viewed streaming live over the internet at ACCSelect.com.

Sports Editor Jeff Dooley contributed to this report.

SPORTS FEATURE

At the head of the pack

Ed Moran '03 caps off best professional season with Pan-Am gold

By ANDREW PIKE  
Flat Hat Assoc. Sports Editor

Coming into 2007, Ed Moran '03 planned to focus on achieving the World Championships "A" Standard at 5,000 meters. Little did he know that in his first attempt he would earn the "A" standard and set a personal best en route to his best season yet as a professional runner for Nike. For the record, Moran set three personal bests, earned three top-five finishes at USA Championship events and won the gold medal at the Pan American Games over 5,000-m during 2007.

Moran's win at Pan Ams stands out among the rest of his accomplishments, and rightly so, as he set a Pan Ams record, timing 13 minutes and 25.6 seconds for the 5,000-m; moreover, Moran became the first American to medal at 5,000-m since Matt Centrowitz won gold in 1979.

Originally, Moran's plans for the race were only to medal, but prior to the race he changed his mindset and formulated a race plan for the next day's event.

"I have the tendency the night before to kind of have a visualization session of

the race to kind of work myself through what the sensations are probably going to feel like at different points of the race," Moran said. "At that point it was, 'you're here, why not just put it out there and see if you can go for the win.'"

After that change of focus, Moran determined that if the race went out slow he would make a move at around 3,000-m, and that if the pace was fast he would wait until 4,000-m. As it turned out, the two Mexican runners, Juan Luis Barrios and Jose David Galvan, made it an honestly paced race from the start.

"Starting the race I felt terrible. It was for the first probably about 800 to a mile I was really sluggish and I was kind of worried of what was going on," Moran said. "It was probably around that mile mark. I don't know what happened, but everything started to come together again."

By the two-mile mark, Moran made up his mind that he would go for the victory. With 1,000-m remaining, Moran pushed the pace, dropping around a 59-second quarter to open a gap that would not be closed. Eventually, with the help of a

jumbotron, Moran confirmed the distance he had gained on his competitors and put the finishing touches on his victory.

"[I] crossed the finish [and] it actually took a couple minutes to actually hit me. I didn't really understand the gravity of the victory until I went back, grabbed my stuff [and] sat down for a few minutes. Then it automatically hits you and it's like, not only did I win, but with a Pan Am record," Moran said. "As of right now it was probably the greatest win of my life."

At the beginning of the year, running at Pan Ams was not Moran's primary goal. The focus had been to earn a spot on the U.S. roster for the World Championships, but a fifth-place showing at the USA Track and Field Championships in June sent Moran to Rio de Janeiro instead of Osaka for the World Championships.

"It took the wind out of my sails a little bit and it was one of those things that, ultimately, it was probably very good for me," Moran said. "I went in there with high expectations, expecting to be able to

See ED MORAN page 9



COURTESY PHOTO — ED MORAN

Ed Moran crosses the finish line in first place at the 5,000-m run at the Pan American games, earning him a gold medal.



SPENCER ATKINSON — THE FLAT HAT

Sophomore midfielder Sarah Quinlan, shown here against Maine Sept. 9, and the Tribe are now 5-2 for the season.

WOMEN'S SOCCER: TRIBE 2, ALBANY 0

College keeps winning streak alive with shutout of Albany

Tribe out-shoots opponents 26-2; Zimmeck, Grier tally goals

By MAGGIE REEB  
The Flat Hat

The women's soccer team continued its winning streak with a 2-0 victory over the Albany University Great Danes 2-0 Wednesday, claiming its fourth successive shutout. The Tribe dominated play with a 10-1 lead in shots on goal and 12-0 edge in corner kicks for an impressive 26-2 shot count over all.

In the first quarter, the Tribe commanded the field, testing the Albany defensive line and allowing little opportunity for the opposition to score. After several long passes up the field to Tribe forwards, the team put a goal away in the 29th minute of the game. On a corner

kick, junior Meredith Brown settled the ball and passed it into the mass of players in front of the net, and after a scuffle, junior Claire Zimmeck tucked the ball in behind the goalie. For the rest of the half, the team continued to run the game, switching fields of play and using the Tribe defensive line to send long passes up the field toward goal. In the last three minutes of the first half, however, Albany stepped up its game, pressuring the ball and keeping play in its offensive zone. The Tribe held them and allowed for no shots on goal as the half came to an end.

Though the Tribe had possession of the ball for an

See WOMEN'S SOCCER page 9